

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 2 through 6 are pending, with Claims 2 and 6 being independent. Claim 6 was allowed. Claim 1 has been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 2 through 6 have been amended.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended in granting and conducting on August 31, 2004, a personal interview with Applicant's representative. During the interview, Applicant's representative (a) explained that Claims 1, 4, and 5 had been rejected, which rejection is respectfully traversed, and that Claims 2 and 3 were objected to and indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form, and (b) presented a proposed amendment wherein (i) allowed Claim 6 was amendment in a manner respectfully submitted not to affect its allowability, (ii) rejected Claim 1 was cancelled without prejudice, (iii) objected-to Claim 2 was rewritten in independent form, with additional amendments respectfully submitted not to affect its allowability, and (iv) Claims 4 and 5 were amended to depend from Claim 6. Applicant understands that the Examiner is in agreement that the proposed amendment would place the application in condition for allowance, and the claims have been so amended.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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